National Informatics Centre (NIC) has implemented land records computerisation in 534 districts. NIC in association with Government of Tamilnadu, has also taken up Taluka Office computerisation in Thanjavur district.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Release of Grants for Drought Relief in Andhra Pradesh

3523. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister visited Mahabubnagar in Andhra Pradesh to study the prevailing drought like conditions there;

(b) if so, the grants sanctioned towards drought relief; and

(c) by when the grant would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Calamity Relief Committee approved an assistance of Rs. 75.36 crore to Andhra Pradesh from the National Fund for Calamity Relief in the wake of drought. The amount was released on 31.3.2000. This amount was released in addition to the amount released under calamity Relief Fund (CRF) i.e. Rs. 107.69 crore as Central share. First instalment of Central share of CRF to the State for 2000-01 amounting to Rs. 38.89 crore has also been released.

Regional Co-ordination Centre on prawn Culture and Asian Cat Fish

3524. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar of ICAR had propopsed in 1995 for establishment of Regional Co-ordination centre for Fresh Water Prawn Culture and Regional Co-ordination Research project on Asian Cat Fish;